1973 டிசம்பர் 4] [திரு. க. இராசாராம்]

முயற்சி சரிவர முடிவடையாத காரணத்தால் நேற்றும் இன்றும் துணை ஆணையர் பேச்சு வார்த்தை நடத்தி வருகிறார். அது வெற்றிகரமாக முடிந்து விடக்கூடும். அப்படிப் பேச்சு வார்த்தையில் தாமதமோ, குந்தகமோ ஏற்படுமானால் சென்னையில் இருக்கும் ஆணையர் அவர்களை அழைத்துப் பேசத் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

(உ) கோவையில் ஆட்டோரிக்ஷா ஓட்டுநர்களுக்கும் சேரன் போக்குவரத்துக் கழகப் பேருந்துப் பணியாளர்களுக்கும் இடையே ஏற்பட்ட மோதல் குறித்து

DR. H. V. HANDE : Sir, I wish to call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Transport to a matter of urgent public importance namely, the tension prevailing in Coimbatore following the clashes between auto-rickshaw drivers and the State-owned Cheran Transport Corporation (CTC) bus crew at different places on the morning of 18th November 1973.

THE HON. THIRU S. RAMACHANDRAN : I am grateful to the hon. Member Dr. H. V. Hande, for having raised this call attention notice.

On 29th September 1973, when the Transport Secretary visited Coimbatore there was public demand for Cheran Transport Corporation Limited coming to the help of the citizens of Coimbatore and running a number of buses for their convenience. This demand was backed by the District Collector. Accordingly Cheran Transport Corporation Limited started running 20 buses in Coimbatore during the past six weeks.

Prior to this the auto-rickshaw drivers were having a 'heyday' and were having good business. The introduction of the buses has no doubt reduced the business of the auto-rickshaw drivers. This is the genesis of the problem in Coimbatore which created the disturbances on the 17th and 18th of this month.

Near Kennedy Theatre in R.S. Puram one of the vehicles of Cheran Transport Corporation Limited stopped on the night of 17th to pick up passengers who were returning after the first show. These passengers used to be cleared by the auto-rickshaws before the introduction of the bus services. The auto-rickshaw

drivers got enraged, encircled the bus, manhandled the driver, chased away the conductor and also deflated the tyres of the bus. The driver ran away deserting the bus to the nearby post office and phoned to the Branch Manager who rushed to the spot and when he was about to release the vehicle, a large number of Auto-rickshaw drivers gathered on the spot and closed all the by-pass roads in the locality, this, preventing the taking out of the buses. Cheran Transport Corporation Limited informed the police over phone who rushed to the spot. The District Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore city, carried on negotiation with the crew of the Cheran Transport Corporation Limited and the Auto-rickshaw drivers for more than three hours and when the District Superintendent of Police was about to suceed in restoring normalcy, soda bottles were thrown by a certain groups of Auto-rickshaw drivers. Apprehending a large number of auto-rickshaw drivers, the crew of Cheran Transport Corporation Limited took the buses from the spot and rushed to the Head Office. Since the auto-rickshaws were parked in a criss-cross manner blocking the traffic in the by-pass road, when the buses were taken by the Cheran Transport Corporation Limited crew, some of the auto-rickshaws were got damaged.

Next day on the advice of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, all Cheran Transport Corporation Limited buses were kept off the road. Despite the Police Bandobust, two hooligans stopped some of the Cheran Transport Corporation Limited men preventing the entry into Branch Office at Uppilipalayam on the 18th morning and tried to set fire with a petrol can they brought. However, the Police took immediate steps and arrested them. Further, the Auto-rickshaw drivers were collected near the over-bridge and pelted stones upon several workers in the Branch Office at Uppilipalayam, and caused heavy damages to the buses parked inside and also injuries to the crew. Thereupon the Cheran Transport Corporation Limited crew came out of the workshop and chased the miscreants. At that time, the District Collector and the Superintendent of Police came to the spot and avoided clash between Cheran Transport Corporation Limited and Auto-rickshaw drivers. The District Collector and the Superintendent of Police invited the Officers, Union Leaders of the Corporation and auto-rickshaw drivers and it was agreed that the damages caused to

each side must be borne by the respective parties and the auto-rickshaws be plied in the evening at 3.00 p.m. and the Cheran Transport Corporation Limited buses to ply on the next day, i.e., on 19th November 1973. But the auto-rickshaw drivers did not play their vehicles as agreed to. Moreover, when the vehicles of the Cheran Transport Corporation Limited started running on the 19th morning, stones were pelted ; but this incident was a very minor one. There was practically normalcy till about 1.00 p.m. But suddenly the auto-rickshaw drivers after returning from a meeting at V.O.C. Park, threw stones on the Cheran Transport Corporation Limited buses. Thereupon, the Collector, the Deputy Inspector-General of Police and the Superintendent of Police took stern action and issued orders to round up the miscreants. The Cheran Transport Corporation Limited buses are running as usual from 4-00 p.m. onwards on Monday. Practically normalcy has been restored after that time and the buses are running as usual now. The auto-rickshaws were also started running from Tuesday onwards.

I want to assure the House that the Government much as they sympathise with the auto-rickshaw drivers, as middle classes who get an earning from their auto-rickshaws, will have to take care of the larger interests of the travelling public. Public transportation system must be provided for in all towns and cities for all those who want to use, realising that a majority of our people cannot afford the luxury of going in pleasure cars and auto-rickshaws.

Dr. H. V. HANDE : Sir, in view of the fact that we want the buses to ply as also the auto-rickshaws to ply, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether representatives of the Auto-rickshaw Association and representatives of the Bus crew have been invited by the Government for holding discussions so that such instances may not take place again ? I know there is peace now. Will it be possible for the Hon. Minister to assure this House that such incidents might not be repeated as a result of the efforts of the Government and can he assure that as a result of the discussions, all sections of the Public, workers, etc., will get on quite peacefully ?

THE HON. THIRU S. RAMACHANDRAN : It is only in that same spirit, the District Collector of Coimbatore has invited representatives of both the Auto-rickshaw drivers and the representatives of Cheran Transport Corporation employees and he has worked out a settlement, the understanding being that it should be honoured as long as they could. That is all.

திரு. துரைமுருகன் : பாயிண்ட் ஆப் ஆர்டர். இந்த மன்றத்தில் எதிர்க்கட்சி வரிசையில் முதல் வரிசையில் ஒருவர்கூட கிடையாது. அவர்கள் என்ன ஆனார்கள் என்று எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை. எதிர்க் கட்சியில் அங்கத்தினர்களே இல்லாமல் போய்விட்டார்களா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

(5) அறிவிப்பு

மேலவையில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்ட சட்ட முன்வடிவுகள் குறித்து

மாண்புமிகு பேரவைத் தலைவர் : பேரவைக்கு ஓர் அறிவிப்பு. கீழ்க்காணும் சட்டப் பேரவை சட்ட முன்வடிவுகள், திருத்தம் எதுவுமின்றி, 30—11—1973-ம் நாளன்று சட்ட மேலவையில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டனவென்று மேலவைத் தலைவர் அவர்களிடமிருந்து செய்தி வரப்பெற்றுள்ளது :—

1. தமிழ்நாடு, 1973-ம் ஆண்டு மதுவிலக்கு (செயல் திறனை நிறுத்தி வைத்தல்) திருத்த சட்ட முன்வடிவு (சட்டப் பேரவை சட்ட முன்வடிவு எண் 25/73).

2. தமிழ்நாடு, 1973-ம் ஆண்டு, பயிரிடும் குத்தகைதாரர்கள் பாதுகாப்புச் (திருத்த) சட்ட முன்வடிவு (சட்டப் பேரவை சட்ட முன்வடிவு எண் 27/73).

3. தமிழ்நாடு, 1973-ம் ஆண்டு நிலச் சீர்திருத்தங்கள் (நில உச்சவரம்பு கட்டுதல்) திருத்த சட்ட முன்வடிவு (சட்டப் பேரவை சட்ட முன்வடிவு எண் 32/73.).

மேலும், கீழ்க்காணும் சட்டப் பேரவை சட்ட முன்வடிவுகள் திருத்தம் எதுவுமின்றி 1—12—1973-ம் நாளன்று சட்ட மேலவையில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டனவென்றும் செய்தி வரப்பெற்றுள்ளது :—

1. தமிழ்நாடு, 1973-ம் ஆண்டு, உள்ளாட்சி அதிகார மன்றங்கள் நிதி (இரண்டாம் திருத்த) சட்ட முன்வடிவு (சட்டப் பேரவை சட்ட முன்வடிவு எண் 33/73).